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RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION SPEEDED
IN WARSAW, GDANSK

16,000 MORE ROOMS FOR WARSAW IN 1950 -- Rzeczpospolita, No 97, 7 Apr 50

Warsaw's residential construction in 1950 will be 57 percent greater than in 1949. The ZOR (Workers' Housing Enterprise) will construct 345 dwellings and 45 service buildings. Of the 16,000 rooms to be completed in 1950, ZOR will finish 12,000. In addition, 11,000 rooms will be completed except for finishing appointments. In the first quarter 1950, ZOR turned 3,902 rooms over to tenants.

ZOR's most important projects are grouped along the East-West Highway and include the residential developments of Praga, Mariensztat, Mlynów, Mirow, and Muranów. Muranów alone accounts for 25 percent of Warsaw's residential construction. The Muranów development, bounded by Leszna, Zelazna, Nowolipa, and Nowomarszalkowska streets, will be completed in 1950. It will comprise 81 residential buildings and 27 buildings for consumers' services such as nurseries, kindergartens, schools, health centers, pharmacies, laundry, trade workshops, and 29 stores. By the end of 1950, 4,500 rooms will be ready for occupancy and 3,000 will be in the rough stages of construction.

The Mlynów development will be expanded in 1950. The General Merchandise Store building will be completed, as well as the Dom Robotnika Wolskiego, which is already under construction.

A section of the Praga development now under construction along Cyryla and Metoda streets will be completed, and a small development between Krakowskie Przedmiescie and Kozia Street will also be ready.

In 1950, the shopping district in Mokotów will be further developed and the muddy Szustra Street will be surfaced. Several buildings will be added to Mariensztat. In Stare Miasto, the old houses along Pivna, Piekarska, Waska, and Szeroki Dunaj streets will be remodeled.

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In Nowomiejsce the entire side of Freta Street will be remodeled. The building up of Nowy Swiat is planned, with the largest number of buildings to be constructed between Swietokrzyska, Kopernika, and Ordynacka streets.

New communities will be developed. Particular consideration is being given to the section along the right bank in Warsaw which previously had been neglected.

Eight structures comprising 700 rooms will be built in Grochow in the vicinity of Waszyngtona and Grenadiera streets, and the construction of several houses in the vicinity of Grochow and Wiatraczna streets will soon be started.

A new development in Ochota, bounded by Grojecka, Szczesliwicka, and Opaczewska streets, is planned, and 400 rooms will be partly finished by the end of 1950.

Several buildings will be constructed on Marszalkowska Street in the center of town. These buildings will be extended from Wilcza to Litewska Street.

COMMUNITY BUILDING ENTERPRISE TO COMPLETE 6,050 ROOMS IN 1950 -- Trybuna Luda, No 60, 1 Mar 50

Very important assignments face the SPB-2 (Community Building Enterprise) of Warsaw in 1950. The 1950 plan calls for $2\frac{1}{2}$ times more construction than in 1949. The largest amount of work, 65 percent, will be residential construction.

The SPB-2 will build a total of 6,050 rooms in Mokotow, Kolo, Mlynow and Ochota, with the largest number, 3,200, in Mokotow. The plan further provides for the building of schools in this development, another kindergarten, a laundry, workshops, and a community house. The total number of rooms completed in Kolo in 1950 will be 1,200 and in Mlynow 1,400.

The newest development in Warsaw will be in Ochota, bounded by Grojecka, Nowa Opaczewska, Szczesliwicka, and Kopinska streets. By the end of 1950 there will be 250 rooms ready in Ochota.

About 20 percent of the work of the SPB-2 in 1950 will be construction of offices and industrial establishments. The most important buildings completed in 1950 will be the Rumanian Embassy, the building for the Central Power Administration, and buildings for the Warsaw Dairies.

The construction of a rural educational center and experimental buildings in Ursus is given a special place in the construction plan for 1950. The construction of administrative buildings for the Workers' Housing Enterprise, as well as investments of the SPB-2 warehouses, equipment bases, carpenter shops, cement works, etc., will round out the work program of the SPB-2 for 1950.

Accomplishment of the above-mentioned tasks is dependent on the availability of materials, transportation, building equipment, and construction manpower. The problem of an adequate supply of building material can be solved only by proper distribution among the individual projects. This point is related to transportation, always a bottleneck. However, the situation in transportation has improved considerably since the PKS (State Motor Transportation) took over railroad sidings to speed up shipments. The moving equipment of the SPB-2 will be used only to transport materials from warehouses to construction sites, to haul sand, etc. The amount of construction equipment in 1950 will increase 25 percent over the figure for 1949.

The SPB-2 is building temporary lodgings in Kolo, Ochota, Mokotow, and Ursus to accommodate 3,000 construction workers.

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SURVEY 5 YEARS OF GDANSK RECONSTRUCTION -- Zycie Warszawy, No 90, 31 Mar 50

Gdansk has made considerable strides since the withdrawal of German troops in 1945. Reconstruction is in full progress. Instead of the crowded dwellings of downtown Gdansk, where 40,000 people lived before the war, new spacious apartments will provide comfortable living quarters for 10,000 inhabitants.

The Polish nation will rebuild the historic landmarks of Gdansk -- the former town hall, the Polish Royal Palace, the Marjacki Church, etc. Old Gdansk will become a residential section of workers' families, with its neighborhood motion-picture theater, legitimate theater, recreation halls, schools, health centers, and retail stores.

The Six-Year Plan provides substantial sums for the reconstruction and expansion of Gdansk and its industries. Gdansk Wojewodztwo, the smallest wojewodztwo in Poland, will receive 220 billion zlotys under the Six-Year Plan, which is equal to the appropriation for Poland's entire 1948 investment program.

The speed of the reconstruction can be gauged by the fact that houses in Old Gdansk are built in $4\frac{1}{2}$ days, and that one worker sets up 114 meters of cables per day instead of the previous quota of 50 cables. Workers of the coastal territory (Wybrzeze) attain records of 1,100 to 1,500 percent of the production norm.

The population structure of the area has undergone considerable changes. Gdansk and Gdynia are now populated mainly by industrial and office workers, engineers, and students.

Sopot is no longer a pleasure resort. There are no industrial establishments in Sopot, and its residents are mostly workers of the Gdansk and Gdynia harbors. In fact, workers now represent 38 percent of the total population of Sopot, while only 7.7 percent are men without any specific trade or members of liberal professions. The rest are white-collar workers and retired employees. Before the war, the only workers in Sopot were those employed by the city's public services.

Sopot's domestic trade has been completely transformed. Even though socialized retail stores make up only 42.2 percent of the total number, they serve 80 percent of the city's population with all essential commodities and articles. The same is true of Gdansk, where socialized retail stores are taking the place of privately owned stores.

Gdynia is still far from being rebuilt. There are large open spaces on 10 Lutego and Starowiejska streets, while houses occupy only one side of Abraham Street. House-building activity in the outlying districts should be discouraged, and the main emphasis laid on developing the central sections of the city.

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